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WEARDALE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1966

"Springfield",
WILLINGTON,
Crook,
Co. Durham.
Tel: Willington 375.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS
OF THE COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health	- G. A. MACGREGOR, M.D.,D.P.H.
Public Health Inspector	- R. G. SUDDICK, Cert.R.S.I.Lond.

WEARDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1966

To the Chairman and Members of the Weardale Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Public Health of your Area for the year 1966.

Once again the Death Rate of 17.87 per 1000 population has exceeded the Birth Rate of 13.95 per 1000 population, the corresponding figures for England and Wales being 11.7 and 17.7. A comparative table of birth and death rates is shown on page 5. The table on pages 6 and 7 gives the principle causes of death in age groups and shows that deaths from heart and circulatory diseases amounted to 64.3 % of all deaths.

Of the infectious diseases only Measles continued endemically. There were no cases of Poliomyelitis or other notifiable disease with the exception of one case of Tuberculosis in an adolescent male. No deaths were recorded from this disease for the second year in succession.

Throughout the year immunisations against Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus, were continued at clinics, surgeries and in schools, with a satisfactory response. Also Tuberculin Testing was carried out among children on entering school and all positive reactors were followed up and examined by a Chest Specialist. Among the 11 year to 18 year old school-children Tuberculin Testing was followed by B.C.G. Immunisation among negative reactors, while among positive reactors complete "follow ups" were conducted.

Undulant Fever was discovered in two cows in your Area during the year and steps were taken to isolate and destroy the infected animals and for the milk to be pasteurised until the affected herd was declared free from infection.

House visiting for housing and family problems were continued during the year by your Health Inspector, myself and also by officers of the County Council.

In conclusion, the general state of public health is being maintained at a good level so far as your area is concerned and I would like to thank members and the Council staff for their cordial help and assistance during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

G. A. MACGREGOR.

CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Population (Registrar General's Estimate - Mid Year)	8,170
Area (In acres)	99,652
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,254
Rateable Value	£401,681
Product of Penny Rate	£1,550

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	105	55	50
Illegitimate	9	6	3
	<u>114</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>53</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	13.95
General Birth Rate (England and Wales)	17.7

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	3	2	1
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still)	14.32
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DEATHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
	145	75	70

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	17.87
Death Rate (England and Wales)	11.7

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	Nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	1	1	-
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	1	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age	
per 1,000 live births	8.77
Infant Mortality Rate (England and Wales)	18.9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births - legitimate	9.52
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births - illegitimate.	-
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per	
1,000 total live births	8.77
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per	
1,000 total live births	8.77
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under	
1 week combined, per 1,000 total live	
and still births)	34.18.
Deaths from Cancer	20
Deaths from Measles	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough	-

TABLE OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS

Year	Death Rate	Infantile Death Rate Under 1 year	Birth Rate
1961	16.88	41.66	14.37
1962	16.54	8.55	14.34
1963	16.44	11.24	10.01
1964	15.62	19.05	12.91
1965	13.52	12.82	9.50
1966	17.87	8.77	13.95

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1966

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 weeks & Under 1 year	Age in Years									
					1 - 5	5 - 15	15 - 25	25 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 55	55 - 65	65 - 75	75 & Over	
3. Syphilitic Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	1	2	2
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
16. Diabetes	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	4	4	9	9
	F	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	4	17	17
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	5	7	9	9
	F	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	7	9	9
20. Other Heart Disease	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	4	4
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
21. Other Circulatory Disease	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
23. Pneumonia	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Carried Forward		120	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	14	28	67		

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 weeks & Under 1 year	Age in Years									
					1 - 5	5 - 15	15 - 25	25 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 55	55 - 65	65 - 75	75 & Over	
Brought forward		120	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	14	28	67	
24. Bronchitis	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	M	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	4	
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
34 All Other Accidents	M	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
35. Suicide	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES									1	3	8	11	16	34
												6	16	43

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases Admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Dysentery	-	-	-
Measles	23	-	-
Whhopping Cough	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	5
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-

The following table shows the number of cases notified and deaths recorded from Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever, during the past six years:-

Year	Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1961	-	-	2	-
1962	-	-	-	-
1963	-	-	2	-
1964	-	-	1	-
1965	-	-	-	-
1966	-	-	1	-

NOTIFIED DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1966

The following table gives the incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the year:-

Disease	Under 1 yr	1 - 2 yrs	3 - 4 yrs	5 - 9 yrs	10 - 14 yrs	15 - 24 yrs	25 - 44 yrs	45 - 64 yrs	65 and over	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	1	4	6	12	-	-	-	-	-	23
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & Over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS FOR RECENT YEARS

Year	New Cases						Deaths					
	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1961	5	-	5	-	-	-	2	1	3	-	-	-
1962	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1963	2	2	4	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
1964	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1965	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1966	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

A N N U A L R E P O R T
of the
P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1966

WATER SUPPLY.

The whole of the Weardale Rural District is within the area of supply of the Durham County Water Board.

During the year the supplies were satisfactorily maintained and no complaints of shortage arose.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Ministry approval of the sewerage schemes to serve the Western Area (£74,892) and the Wolsingham District (£61,153) was duly received.

The work in laying the relief sewer to serve the West End of Wolsingham was completed and the construction of the new sewage works near Brotherlee, to serve the Western Area, was in progress.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The position regarding the installation of water closets continues to improve and the schemes for sewerage, now in progress, particularly in the western part of the area, will allow even greater improvement.

Six property owners took advantage of the Council's scheme, allowing a grant for water closet conversions, and during the year grants totalling £153. 11. 9d, were paid. Several water closets were also installed under the Housing Improvement Grant Schemes.

The types of closets in the area, at the end of the year were:-

Water Closets	-	2817
Ash-closets etc	-	398
Ashpit-privies	-	38.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection of household refuse was carried out satisfactorily, the two Shelvoke & Drewry and the one Ford Thames refuse collecting vehicles being solely engaged on this work.

The estimated weight of refuse removed was 5,932 tons and the vehicles covered a total mileage of 19,962.

Refuse was disposed of at the three tips at Lanehead Quarry, Stanhope; Brown's Houses Quarry, Frosterley and Harperley Bank Quarry.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

The whole time rodent operator was engaged on the disinfection of dwelling, business premises, farms, refuse tips, sewers and sewage disposal works. Of the properties inspected, treatment (including re-treatments) were carried out on 215 dwellings, 18 business premises and farms and 38 other properties (refuse tips and sewage works).

Cost of the work on business premises and farms was recovered on the basis of actual cost plus overhead expenses.

SHOPS AND FOOD PREMISES

Routine inspections of the shops and food premises were carried out, the standard of these being generally satisfactory. Inspections were also carried out in connection with registrations for the sale of ice cream.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Inspections of the four registered private slaughter-houses in the district were carried out and these were found to be satisfactory.

During the year 1966, the carcasses of 324 cattle, 843 sheep and 31 pigs were inspected. The standard of animals slaughtered was generally good, and only small amounts of liver and other minor parts were condemned.

Tinned foods in shops were condemned and in each of the 56 instances, the food was surrendered voluntarily.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

No action was found necessary regarding smoke abatement. There are few industries in the district of the type associated with smoke nuisance.

FACTORIES ACTS

Inspections were carried out under the Factories Acts. Minor defects were remedied in one instance.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

Further inspections were carried out in connection with the registrations under this Act.

At the end of the year 13 offices and 18 retail shops etc., employing 97 persons (37 males and 60 females) had been registered.

CARAVAN & CAMPING SITES

With the increase in the number of holiday caravan sites, further inspections were carried out under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, in connection with site licence requirements.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following is a summary of visits undertaken by the Department during the year:-

Housing (Public Health & Housing Acts)	286
Sanitary Conveniences	21
Drainage	58
Water Supply	16
Food Premises	135
Shops Acts	147
Dairies	6
Slaughter-houses	38
Caravans and Camping Sites	67
Factories and Workplaces	38
Insanitary ashpits and receptacles	27
Offensive accumulations	2
Prevention of Damage by Pests	69
Boarding Kennels	1

HOUSING

(a) Local Authority

During the year 67 new houses were completed and occupied (57 at Stanhope and 10 (Industrialised) at Wolsingham). 44 further houses were in course of erection - 20 at the Bond Isle Site, Stanhope and 24 (industrialised) at Wolsingham.

(b) Private Dwellings

Seven private dwellings were completed and occupied during the year as follows:-

Edmundbyers	-	1
Stanhope	-	5
Wolsingham	-	1

Eleven others were in course of erection at:-

Edmundbyers	-	2
Wolsingham	-	3
Stanhope	-	5
Frosterley	-	1

(c) Improvement Grants

(a) Discretionary Grants

Applications submitted and approved during the year	-	65
Applications rejected during the year	-	0
Completion Grants paid during the year	-	50
Approximate average grant per house during the year	£275. 0. 0.	
Total number of applications approved since inception of scheme	-	537

(b) Standard Grants

Applications submitted and approved during the year	-	15
Completion Grants paid during the year	-	13
Approximate average grant per house during the year	£147.10. 0.	
Total number of applications approved since inception of scheme	-	85.

I have the honour to be

Yours obediently,

R. G. Suddick

Public Health Inspector
& Surveyor.